

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: PD-5

October 5, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

METRO GOLD LINE EASTSIDE EXTENSION PROJECT ROAD IMPROVEMENTS SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1 3 VOTES

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- 1. Find that this project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 2. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, pursuant to the Master Cooperative Agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) approved by your Board on April 1, 2003, Synopsis No. 36, to coordinate necessary road improvements along the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension (Gold Line) project alignment and to reimburse Metro up to \$2,450,000 for the cost of these road improvements.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Metro is proceeding with the Gold Line project to extend light rail service from Union Station into East Los Angeles. As part of the Gold Line project, Metro is reconstructing portions of East Third Street along the light rail alignment. Public Works has determined that there are additional portions of East Third Street immediately adjacent to the Gold Line track alignment that are deteriorated and need to be reconstructed. The road improvements will include reconstruction of curb, gutter, sidewalk, and street

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pavement, traffic signal upgrades, and the installation of street trees and irrigation systems at various locations along the proposed Gold Line alignment. Construction of these improvements, in conjunction with the Gold Line construction, will be cost-effective and avoid additional construction impacts to the community in the future.

Public Works proposes to perform the preliminary engineering for the improvements, with Metro to administer the construction as part of the Gold Line project. Your Board's approval is requested to authorize Public Works to reimburse Metro up to \$2.45 million for the construction cost of the road improvements.

A Master Cooperative Agreement adopted by your Board on April 1, 2003, Synopsis No. 36, establishes the responsibilities of Metro, the County, and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District during the design and construction phase of the Eastside Light Rail Transit project. Furthermore, the Master Cooperative Agreement provides the means for the County and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to elect to include improvements, at the County and/or the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's cost.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This cooperative project meets the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness. Close coordination of the Gold Line project among agencies is essential for the timely completion of the project. The completion of the infrastructure rearrangements during the construction of the project will eliminate the need for additional street closures after the project, thereby reducing the inconvenience to motorists, residents, and business owners.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The \$2,450,000 required to finance the cost of the road improvements is included in the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Road Fund Budget.

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FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

As noted above, the Master Cooperative Agreement between Metro, the County, and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District provides the means for the County to include additional road improvements in the Gold Line project at County expense. Metro will prepare Letters of Agreement for the negotiated cost of the proposed road improvements in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,450,000. The Letters of Agreement will be reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel prior to signature by the Director of Public Works, or his designee.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

This project is categorically exempt pursuant to Class I, Subsections (x)(2), (x)(4), (x)(9), (x)(13), and (x)(14) of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, and Section 15301(c) of the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no impact on current services.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval, please return two adopted copies of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONÁLD L. WOLFE Director of Public Works

JCH:dv

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cc: Chief Administrative Office

County Counsel